

Coolidge Calls Nation Prosperous as a Whole

PAUL SMITHS, N. Y., Aug. 4.—On the third anniversary of his assuming office, President Coolidge declares that the country has gained greatly under his administration and is now on a sound basis, though he does admit a few weak spots.

Broadly speaking, Mr. Coolidge holds that the country has recovered from the war. Some parts of the West have not made a full revival, with bad crop conditions in Nebraska and the Dakotas reported, due to droughts.

As to the textile industry, it has not been so good in the last three years, but it shows signs of recovering, with increased production noted in July. The metal and automobile industry is in first-rate condition.

The railroads are doing a larger business than ever before.

The war debt settlements are referred to as the greatest international deal ever attempted.

None Responsible In Arsenal Blast, Finding of Court

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—The loss sustained by the navy during the recent explosions at the naval ammunition depot at Lake Denmark, N. J., was approximately \$47,000,000 and the cause was a bolt of lightning, in the opinion of the court of inquiry, headed by Rear Admiral Robert E. Coontz, which investigated the



Admiral Coontz

The total value of the Lake Denmark plant is shown by the report of the Coontz court, made public by Acting Secretary of the Navy Robinson, to have been \$87,860,253.35.

150 Endangered As Ship Crashes Into East Side Pier

Delayed by its crash into the stringpiece at Pier 8, East River, the steamer Reina Maria Christina of the Spanish Royal Mail Line, its bow repaired, prepared to sail today with its 150 passengers for Cadiz and Barcelona.

Through confused signals, the steamer, just as she was about to leave the dock last night, crashed into the stringpiece, the bowsprit of the vessel projecting twenty-five feet into South Street. Damage was chiefly to the bow plates under water.

Most of the passengers remained aboard over night.

Fat Prisoners Caught In Hole, While Thin Ones Flee

JASPER, Ia., Aug. 4 (By U. P.)—Nine prisoners at the Walker county jail here are too fat for their own good.

Early today thirteen prisoners sawed a hole through the door, but only four escaped, the others being too fat to get through the narrow opening.

Posses Threaten To Lynch Negro Who Beat Girl

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 4.—While Lillian Sandiford of Fort Washington is in a serious condition in the Abington Memorial Hospital as the result of a brutal clubbing she received at the hands of a negro, police and posses are coming to the woods at Montgomery county for the assailant today.

The girl was on her way to the Hoopstown postoffice when the negro sprang upon her from a clump of bushes. She bit and scratched her assailant and fled, pursued by the negro, swinging a club. Overtaking her, he beat her with the club and hands. Her screams attracted the attention of neighbors, who ran to her aid, armed with pitchforks and other weapons.

Posses were formed and chased the fleeing negro, threatening to lynch him.

Probe Fatal Derrick Fall

Officials today are investigating the accident at 4 West 29th St. last night when a derrick fell from the sixth floor of a building under construction, killing one and injuring four others.

Harry Carlson, 22, laborer, 771 48th St., Brooklyn, was killed. The most seriously injured of the four were Chester Bush, 36, laborer, of Franklin Ave., The Bronx, who suffered a fractured leg and internal injury, and Thomas Cooke, 3, of 339 West 36th St. Little Tommy, walking in the street with his mother, was struck by falling debris.

FINANCIER DEAD

Adolph Koeppel, president of the Central Savings Bank, 100 East 14th St., and one of the leaders in the savings bank business in this city, is dead today at his summer home, 17 Glenmore Drive, New Rochelle, aged 71.

EX-SLAVE WHO SHOOK HAND OF LINCOLN CAPTURES COURT

Mrs. Clarence Peppis's one bid for fame is that she had shaken the hand of Abraham Lincoln, Gen. Robert E. Lee and the fiery Jeff Davis. Aside from that she is just a faint echo of an empty past. Jefferson Market Court brought her back to the old days.

She was arrested as a vagrant. Despite her tiny stature—four feet tall—her lack of a destination had become conspicuous around and about 53d Street.

In court the woman said she wasn't exactly a vagrant, explaining she came here from Boston to visit relatives, but lost their address. Then she told of her slave life with other negroes on the plantation of John Jerry Wilson in the South. She told of how Lincoln visited the place and greeted every bound worker.

Magistrate Weil headed a fund with a large contribution, and Mrs. Peppis received \$24. Later Mrs. Rosa Williams came forward as the missing relative, and all suspicion of vagrancy was erased.

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